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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 30 | Min 20 | Humidity 85% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 64,080 | Nifty 19,133 | Gold 61,640 | Silver 73,000 | Dollar 83.24 | Euro 88.55 | GBP 101.40

CITY / PAGE 4

RAIN DRAIN

City faced 48% rainfall deficit in October

CITY / PAGE 5

ANIMAL INSTINCT

Crowd control goes awry in search for leopard

Burial ground has no water supply as electric crematorium lay idle for more than 8 years caught in stay order

DEATH OF THE FUNERAL

Crematorium built at a cost of Rs 4 crore

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Enter the burial ground at Hegde Nagar of Thanisandra ward in Byatarayanapura assembly constituency in north Bengaluru: a few broken water pipes, a defunct borewell, an idle electric crematorium constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 4 crore, and weeds growing all over greet you.

The burial ground that belongs to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) craves for the immediate attention of the authorities concerned. The electric crematorium was constructed by BBMP lakes department. However, it is not clear what the lakes department has to do with the electric crematorium.

Burial grounds are supposed to be the last and peaceful destination for the mortal remains — but this burial ground has the potential to make the people, who bring the mortal remains of their near and dear ones, not only to repent but also become restless for not being able to give a decent burial for the mortal remains of their kin.

With the crematorium lying idle for more than eight years due to a stay order, the BBMP, including legal cell, have failed to realise the need of the facility and make a sincere effort to vacate the stay by presenting all the documents to the authorities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 »

“There is no sufficient space to bury bodies. I want authorities to open the electric crematorium soon

—Palani Venkatesh, corporator, Thanisandra ward

To bee a drone

India’s smallest AI-driven drone - AI-Bee - weighs less than 250 gm

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India’s smallest drone equipped with autonomous navigation capability is being developed in Bengaluru.

ARTPARK-incubated Bengaluru-based startup Vaydyn is building India’s smallest AI-driven drone weighing less than 250 gm.

Drone makers see the possibility of utilising its capabilities in defence as well as heavy industries sector.

The drone is also one of the first arrivals in the nano drone segment.

Roughly 10 months ago, the team set out to build indigenous nano drones and reduce the dependence on China-made drones.

The team has named the nano drone AI-Bee.

The nano drone equipped with intelligent systems can function on an autopilot system, navigate and land.

The functionality makes it ideal for the defence sector, especially reconnaissance. The team is also working on adding gas sensors to detect leaks in gas pipelines. The drone will be able to travel inside gas pipelines and identify leaks in unmanned operations.

The nano drone can travel up to 1-1.5km and sustain radio communication up to 1 km. Equipped with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Paint your plates

Grab the chance to participate in the Cherry Blossom Plate Painting Workshop, which is being presented by Art Glow. To guide the participants, the workshop offers expert help from Shruti Jain from Art Glow, whose exceptional skills and unwavering passion for art know no bounds.
Where: Cantan, Lavelle Road, opposite Harley Davidson; When: Saturday, November 4; 4 pm-6 pm

02 Movie night

Experience a unique outdoor movie night that promises an unforgettable experience for movie enthusiasts of all ages. Attendees can enjoy their favourite movies in an amazing atmosphere, surrounded by the beauty of nature.
Where: Grand Mercure Bengaluru, Gopalan Mall, opposite RMZ Infinity Techpark, Swamy Vivekananda Road
When: November 4 and 18; 7 pm and 8 pm

03 Crafty cravings

As Deepavali approaches, the Bengaluru Arts and Crafts Festival is set to welcome you with warm clothing, bed spreads, and varieties of hosiery. The variety of materials is so vast that it will cater to a large number of people of different tastes. Get your hands on arts and crafts made of intricate carvings by artisans. **Where: HSR Layout House Convention Centre; When: until November 5**

Green thumbs-up: Heal as you plant new seeds

Sustainable Horticulture Centre Project to create opportunities for people with diverse needs, including vulnerable women and intellectually disabled

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The project caters to 115 beneficiaries from all homes in Correctional Institutions Complex who have been assessed based on their suitability to undergo horticultural therapy

In a bid to provide livelihood opportunities for residents of the Correctional Institutions Complex, which houses individuals with diverse needs, including those with intellectual disabilities and vulnerable women, the Association of People with Disability (APD), along with the Department of Women and Child Development, has designed a Sustainable Horticulture Centre project to provide sustainable livelihood opportunities.

The Correctional Institutions Complex is a facility that houses vulnerable women and children who have been rescued from abuse, vulnerable women, those who are abandoned, forced labour, and similar unfortunate circumstances. The project caters to 115 beneficiaries from all homes in Complex who have been assessed based on their suitability to undergo horticultural therapeutic and training interventions to create dignity and livelihood opportunities.

Ganesh Hegde, the Deputy Director of the Horticulture Training Department at APD, said, "Considering the diverse abilities of the Correctional Institutions Complex residents, the project will offer horticulture training and an ecotherapy programme for intellectually challenged individuals.

Additionally, it includes environmental education for children at the Boys and Girls Homes. A composting wet waste management solution was introduced, utilising the kitchen/wet waste generated within the complex. Residents will partake in gardening and plant nursery activities, fostering skill development, ecotherapy, and environmental education."

> **"The project will offer horticulture training and an ecotherapy programme for intellectually challenged individuals**
> – Ganesh Hegde, Association of People with Disability

The programme was initiated in April 2023. Members started the work on horticulture therapy in July, and the centre would be officially inaugurated on Friday at the correctional institution complex. Bosch will provide support for the project as a CSR donor.

Some of the key aspects that will be included in the project are gardening and plant nursery activities to develop skills and provide eco-therapy, environmental education for children, hands-on training for suitable beneficiaries, followed by practical experience, mentorship for participants to ensure high-quality production, and occupational therapy and counselling services for participants to monitor and enhance their progress.

Hegde added, "These trainings will help build skills for the beneficiaries and serve as a livelihood opportunity for some potential beneficiaries in the future. Additionally, it also aims to meaningfully engage them in activities that will contribute towards their social, mental, and physical well-being."

The beneficiaries are said to be trained for six months, followed by practical work experience to get acquainted with the skills. The participants will be awarded a certificate as an encouragement towards their further learning. Every participant will also receive individual mentorship to reinforce learning and get acquainted with gardening.

Burial ground in Thanisandra needs upkeep

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

With no cremation facility available, residents of Hegde Nagar, Thanisandra and other areas have to take bodies meant for cremation to either Hebbal or Kalpally crematoriums, situated 7-10 km away for the final rites.

This may be the one and only burial ground in the city that has no water facility for the benefit of people bringing bodies for burial. Most of the people who bring bodies for burial would like to wash their face, hands and feet after the final rites.

There is a borewell but it has been defunct for more than a year due to a damaged electric cable. Grave diggers employed are compelled to convey to the people to engage a private water tanker to supply water as there is no water available for ablutions.

With no gate, the burial ground has become a favourite destination for miscreants. They did not spare water taps.

"We have been appealing to the BBMP to take measures for opening the electric crematorium as early as possible. As of now, the residents have to go either Hebbal or Kalpally for cremation. It will be a great help for the residents of Thanisandra, Hegde Nagar and surrounding areas if the electric crematorium is opened," said Mari Madaiah, a resident. He said he had made arrangements to replace the damaged electric cable.

Emphasising the need to open the electric crematorium, Thanisandra ward former corporator Palani Venkatesh said it's been lying idle before he was elected as the corporator to the BBMP council. "As of now, there is no sufficient space to bury bodies. I want the authorities to open the electric crematorium as early as possible," said Venkatesh.

Meanwhile, BBMP executive engineer (lakes) Mahadev said a case is pending in the court against opening the electric crematorium. "It will be opened after vacating the stay order," said Mahadev.

The question is, individuals concerned say, who prepared the plan for constructing the electric crematorium near residential quarters. Is it not the responsibility of the BBMP either to shift the machinery worth crores of rupees to another burial ground where it is needed instead of allowing the machines to gather dust, they wonder.

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Karnataka dries up, November brings hope

Bengaluru witnessed driest spells in recent years with 48% rainfall deficit

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October in the city witnessed one of the lowest rainfall levels in recent years, with a 48 per cent deficit. The drought extended across Karnataka, with the state experiencing a cumulative rainfall deficit of 61 per cent. Coastal regions had a 32 per cent deficit; north interior Karnataka suffered a severe 90 per cent shortfall, while south interior Karnataka faced a 53 per cent deficiency. In stark contrast, Mysuru and Dakshina Kannada districts saw 16 per cent excess rainfall, with Kodagu and Hassan reporting 11 per cent and 9 per cent surplus rainfall, respectively.

A Prasad, a scientist from India Meteorological Department (IMD), said, "Looking ahead to November, certain districts, including Mysuru and Mandya, may receive rainfall until November 9 due to eastward-blowing winds bringing moisture. The average expected rainfall for Karnataka in November is 41.2 mm, with coastal areas anticipating 59 mm, the north interior expecting 26 mm, the south interior projecting 50.6 mm, and Bengaluru foreseeing 64.5 mm.

Contrary to the previous year, which saw excess rainfall, this year presents challenges with a strong El Niño and positive Indian Ocean Dipole contributing to a predicted rain deficit during the north-east monsoon. Temperature-wise, November is expected to have maximum temperatures 2 to 3 degrees Celsius above average, with warmer night temperatures."

The drought extended across Karnataka, with the state experiencing a cumulative rainfall deficit of 61 per cent

IMD forecast said, "Presently, the Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) and atmospheric conditions across the Equatorial Pacific Ocean signal the presence of moderate El Niño conditions. Projections from the Multi-Model Climate Forecast System (MMCFS) and various global models align, indicating a likelihood that these El Niño conditions will persist into the upcoming season. Beyond the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) conditions impacting the Pacific, the Indian climate is also influenced by additional factors, including Indian Ocean Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs). Currently, the Equatorial Indian Ocean is experiencing positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions. The most recent forecast from MMCFS underscores the expectation that these positive IOD conditions are anticipated to diminish in strength in the coming months." Prasad added, "The current atmospheric conditions over the Equatorial Pacific Ocean indicate moderate El Nino conditions, with forecasts suggesting its continuation. Additionally, positive Indian Ocean Dipole conditions are prevailing but are expected to weaken in the upcoming months. Bengaluru's weather forecast for the next two days predicts cloudy conditions with possible rain in some areas. Temperatures are expected to range between 19 and 29 degrees Celsius. Morning fog is anticipated at the international airport and Yelahanka."

Meanwhile, long-term forecasts from the IMD indicate that the Long Period Average (LPA) of rainfall over South Peninsular India during November is about 118.69 mm. The November 2023 rainfall across the country is likely to be normal (77-123% of LPA). Spatial distribution forecasts suggest above-normal rainfall in some areas of Southern Peninsular India, northwest India, east-central, east, and northeast India. Below-normal to normal rainfall is expected in the remaining parts of the country.

> **"Looking ahead to November, certain districts, may receive rainfall until November 9 due to eastward-blowing winds bringing moisture** – A Prasad, a scientist

During November 2023, above-normal maximum temperatures are likely over most parts of the country, except for some parts of Northwest India and Central India, where normal maximum temperatures are expected. Similarly, above-normal minimum temperatures are likely over most parts of the country.

Road to relief: BBMP resumes repairs

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After a stagnant period of 7 months in which the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) suspended all developmental projects, there is now a glimmer of hope for the city's residents. The BBMP Roads and Infrastructure (RI) department in the Mahadevpura zone has initiated crucial road repair efforts, with a particular focus on addressing the significant damages that have plagued the Outer Ring Road (ORR) Service Road in recent times.

Residents of the Mahadevpura zone, who have long endured the inconvenience of deteriorating roads, may finally breathe a sigh of relief. An official from BBMP's Mahadevpura zone explained the cause, stating, "The issue arose when BBMP contractors halted their work due to unpaid bills, resulting in a complete standstill in development projects. However, work operations resumed last week, including road repairs and drainage improvements."

The BBMP Roads and Infrastructure (RI) department of the Mahadevpura zone has initiated crucial road repair efforts

Members of the Mahadevpura Task Force revealed that there are no funds allocated for development projects in 2023-2024, and only road repair works are currently underway. Localities like Varthur Main Road in Thubrahalli and Graphite India Main Road near Anjeneya Temple Junction are being repaired as part of the Defect Liability Period (DLP).

A BBMP official added, "Road repair activities will be carried out across the Mahadevpura zone, with immediate attention given to the roads in the worst condition. Over 75% of the funds have been released to contractors, and the work has gained momentum." Some citizens have highlighted the need for road repairs in the Sarjapur area, especially on arterial roads like Chikkanayakanahalli Road, Junnasandra Road, Halnayakanahalli Lake Road, Sarjapur Main Road, which is riddled with potholes, and Kodati and Hadosidapura Road.

A resident of Thubrahalli said, "There's a massive hole on Vibgyor School Road in Thubrahalli, and the street lights near Vaswani Brentwood don't work. The road is in a deplorable state, and despite numerous complaints, no one seems to be addressing the issues". Another concerned citizen highlighted the dire condition of Kodigehalli Main Road. "The road is excessively dusty, and there are numerous potholes. While it was supposed to be repaired in mid-October, the stretch is still not asphalted. Merely conducting patchwork will not suffice."

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Road blockade

Magadi Road

A vehicle has been occupying space on 15th Main, Magadi Road 2nd Cross, opposite Sureka School for the past two months. This is causing a hindrance to the free movement of the public.

Trash crisis

Basavanagudi

The trash situation in Basavanagudi has reached a critical point, with recurring incidents of fires exacerbating pollution levels, and creating hazardous air quality conditions.

No action

JP Nagar

Despite numerous complaints, authorities have not taken action to address the issue of illegal garbage dumping on Outer Ring Road, JP Nagar, near Dr Puneet Rajkumar Road, specifically in the vicinity of the west side exit of the GR Vishwanath flyover.

'Chandrayaan 3' lands in city

Model of Chandrayaan 3 at Visvesvaraya Museum

A full-scale model of Chandrayaan 3 received from UR Rao Satellite Centre of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has been put on display at Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum in the city.

The model was inaugurated by Dr P Veeramuthuvel, Project Director Chandrayaan 3, UR Rao satellite Centre on Thursday along with M Vanitha, Associate Director and Nigar Shaji, Programme Director. The exhibit is now open to the public.

India made history when the Vikram lander touched down near the Lunar south pole on August 23 this year, making India the fourth country to successfully land on the moon, and the first to do so near the lunar south pole. The government of India has declared August 23 of every year as the National Space Day to commemorate this historic moment. Chandrayaan 3 is a moon lander and rover mission developed by the ISRO. It is the third mission in the Chandrayaan programme, a series of lunar- exploration missions of ISRO.

You can see the live size of Vikram Lander and Pragyan Rover at the museum.

Mob frenzy turned rescue mission into shootout

Leopard death: Human-wildlife management rules suggest imposition of Sec 144 to prevent crowding

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An ineffective crowd management strategy during the operation by forest officials to catch the leopard that had strayed into the city could be the factor that jeopardised the outcome of the operation. Going by the rulebook, section 144 of Cr.PC should have been imposed in Kudlu to avoid crowding by locals.

According to guidelines laid down by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for human-wildlife conflict management, in all instances of wild carnivores straying into a human-dominated area, the district authorities should ensure law and order by imposing section 144 of the Cr. PC. This is essential to avoid agitation and locals surrounding the spot, which hampers capture operations, leading to injuries to people and staff.

"If such an operation is taking place close to human habitation, the District Collector/DM and SSP/SP of the area should be involved to maintain law and order, besides preventing crowding. The authorities should be acquainted with human-tiger conflict issues and guidelines of the NTCA. If the situation demands, the district authorities need to ensure law and order by imposing section 144 of the Cr. PC. Coordination with police and local administration is critical to controlling mobs which worsen the situation and lead to avoidable fatalities/tragedies," notes the NTCA guideline.

KAUSHIK JN

Onlookers gather around the leopard's hide-out, on Wednesday

"Our priority in such situations is to capture the animal and with limited force, it becomes difficult to keep everyone away. Civilians should be more mindful –KFD official

Wildlife experts say crowd management is crucial to any successful animal rescue operation. The emergency response team gets obstructed and hindered in its activities by a gathering of people, making it difficult to discharge its responsibilities.

"Support of the police and civil administration should be ensured in advance to facilitate crowd control and to discourage crowding and this should be done by imposing Section 144 that is mandated as per the standard operating procedures by NTCA whenever carnivores stray into human habitations. During the operation on Wednesday too, the public could have been more responsible by avoiding crowding which probably created pressure on the rescue team and on the animal," said Giridhar Kulkarni, a wildlife conservationist.

Crowd stress

According to the officials from the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD), leopards or any other wild animal, when surrounded by many people, get scared and become aggressive, which is their defence mechanism. In this case, too, the animal was already under a lot of stress and the crowd presence made it more aggressive. It panicked and that was the main reason it attacked people. Thus, the department had to shoot it down.

"While officials from the forest and police departments kept asking the civilians to keep away from the campus, the majority did not budge. We tried to drive them away to the maximum possible. Such situations arise in every operation, even in villages. Hundreds gather and make so much hue and cry that it becomes difficult for us to carry out the operation. Moreover, our priority in such situations is to capture the animal and with limited force, it becomes difficult to keep everyone away. Civilians should be more mindful and understanding. They should cooperate with the department," said a senior official from KFD.

Experts highlight that given the NTCA guidelines were followed on Wednesday, the outcome of the operation could have been favourable. MOEF&CC guidelines for human-leopard conflict management also talk about crowd management measures in such situations. As per the guidelines, a primary response team comprising paid or volunteer members from the local communities, who are trained to respond immediately to a conflict situation, should also be established to control the crowd and secure the area until the next level of help arrives.

"The area should be cordoned off with barricades, and the public alerted through a public address system. Regular updates should be made available to the administration and local public. It is important to spread awareness and sensitise people about such issues so future incidents can be managed better," said another wildlife expert.

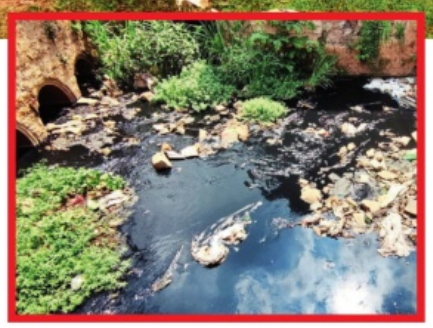
Driver plots to steal Rs 1 crore from bizman

Four persons were detained by the Upparpet police for allegedly robbing a betelnut businessman of Rs 1 crore. The accused are Karthik SR, Anupama NM, Pavan N, and Swamy PB. It is said that Swamy, a driver, had been hired by the businessman HS Umesh from Chitradurga to take him to go see farmers in Sira and Tumakuru on October 7. Swamy discovered that Umesh was carrying cash during the trip, so he plotted to steal the money.

Umesh had stored Rs 1 crore in a bag in the trunk of his car, according to the police. He met farmers but after failing to find enough betel nuts, he came to Bengaluru to see his daughter, who stays at a PG in Chandra Layout. He then returned to Chitradurga, but when he got there, the bag wasn't in the car. On October 21, he filed a complaint, believing that the driver was the only one who knew he was carrying cash. **BMB**

Lake has become sludge, a fine mess

Citizens near Jigani Industrial Area make dedicated efforts to revive Hennagara Lake



While Hennagara Lake was cleared of weed recently, residents also complain of garbage being dumped in the lake vicinity in an open area

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A group of dedicated residents near the Jigani Industrial area is actively engaged in an uphill battle to restore a 200-acre water body, Hennagara Lake. While they have made significant progress in clearing the lake's water surface of dense hyacinth cover, untreated industrial effluents flowing in from the industrial area are proving to be a nightmare.

Residents have reached out to the Minor Irrigation Department with a proposal for cleaning up weeds, setting up a wetland, and creating a detailed project report to revive the water body.

"The current water quality of Hennagara Lake falls under Category E, as per the standards prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board. The pollution level at the inlets is very high, and water gives a foul smell at all entry points. Through our initiative and support from the Minor Irrigation Department, we are aiming for class B or class C water quality. A city-based research organization also studied the water quality of the lake. Researchers suggested a wetland on 500 hectares of the lake area, which is expected to 70-80% of the pollutants currently entering the lake," said Tushar Chandra, a resident of the area and founder of VrikshaMitra Foundation, an NGO run by a group of residents.

> **Through our initiative and support from the Minor Irrigation Department, we are aiming for class B or class C water quality**
>
> –Tushar Chandra, founder of VrikshaMitra Foundation

While Hennagara Lake was cleared of weed recently, residents also complain of garbage being dumped in the lake vicinity in an open area.

"Currently, garbage is being dumped in an open area close to the lake. We have spoken to all the apartment complexes in the area, and they have informed us that the garbage is coming in from a far-off place. The panchayat has also denied the dumping. However, fresh garbage is being dumped daily, including organic waste, along with sanitary and medical waste on some occasions.

Locals say they have approached officials from the Minor Irrigation Department apartment for the revival of the water body, which has been receiving a lot of untreated industrial waste from the Jigani Industrial area. They also allege that a private layout is being set up on the buffer zone of the lake.

"A lot of industrial waste flows in from the Jigani industrial area. The lake has three inlets. One inlet is from the Jigani Industrial area, the second inlet carries water from Masthenahalli, and the third inlet is from Haragadde Lake. The inlet carrying water from Jigani brings in a lot of industrial effluent. The water near the inlet has turned into black sludge.

Moreover, the lake is being encroached upon by a private builder. We have used the Dishanak application by the government, and it shows that the layout is being built up in the lake area. We have approached the Minot Irrigation department and have informed them about these issues. However, no action has been taken so far," said Tushar.

Equinox 2023: Shining Josephite legacy bright

Over the past two decades, the heart of Bangalore has been graced by Equinox, an illustrious celebration that embodies the rich heritage of every Josephite. This grand event, extending beyond a typical cultural or academic festival, stands as a testament to the exuberant legacy of St. Joseph's Pre- Pre-University. Equinox, one of Bangalore's pioneering festivals, has been a guiding light and inspiration for many. Josephites entering St. Joseph's Pre-University have always cherished memories intertwined with this Mega Inter-Collegiate fest, and this year is no exception.

With over 30 events, mind-boggling game stalls, delectable eateries, and more, Equinox has proved its title as the best among Pre-University colleges in and around Bangalore. Each year, Equinox adopts a theme that encapsulates its essence, and this year's chosen theme is 'Eminence.' The theme aligns with the spirit of this year's celebration.

The opening ceremony was graced by the renowned Sandalwood Actor Real star Upendra and esteemed dignitaries, including Rev Fr Joy Rodrigues SJ,Director; Mr C R Rajendra, Principal; Rev Fr Ashwin S J, Campus Minister; Ms Smitha Chacko, Vice Principal; Ms Maria Thendral, Governor; and Ms Soumya, Cultural Coordinator, along with Student Council members. The festivities kicked off with grandeur and enthusiasm, setting the tone for Equinox 2023.

Equinox featured many stage performances, including Battle of Bands, dance among others

The event featured many stage performances, including the Battle of Bands and Mr and Ms Equinox, among others. Additionally, academic events catering to various subjects and courses witnessed enthusiastic participation. Equinox 2023 fulfilled the aspirations of every Josephite, once again creating cherished memories for this year's batch.

The mega fest concluded on a high note, with attendees dancing to the tunes and rhythms of its DJ.

Zika alert: Mosquitoes carry worry to Karnataka

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Despite no confirmed human transmission of the Zika virus, alarming findings emerge from Karnataka's Health Department. Mosquitoes near Talakayalabetta, located around 90 km from Bengaluru in the Chikkaballapur district, have been found to be carriers of the Zika virus. In response to this, the health department has increased surveillance efforts. Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said, "Let me clarify that no one has tested positive."

Chikkaballapur district health officer Mahesh Kumar said, "In August last week, entomologists tested mosquito samples from six places. While five places showed negative results, the mosquitoes in Talakayalabetta have been found to be carriers of the Zika virus. So far, there has been no human transmission. In the five-kilometre radius, we have been doing surveys. We have told primary health centres to report any unusual fever cases."

Dr Suresh Gowda, a Consultant in Pediatrics and Neonatology at Motherhood Hospitals, HRBR Layout, said, "Zika virus, also known as Zika fever, is an infectious illness primarily transmitted through the bite of specific types of mosquitoes, namely Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus. One notable characteristic of the Zika virus is that many individuals infected with it either remain unaware of their infection or experience only mild symptoms. The inconspicuous nature of Zika infections often makes it challenging to identify and control the spread of the virus, as many infected individuals may not seek medical attention or realise they are carrying the virus."

Zika virus carrying mosquitoes detected, no human transmission

Dr Aditya S Chowti, a Senior Consultant in Internal Medicine at Fortis Cunningham, added that Zika infection might result in mild symptoms such as fever, rash, headache, muscle and joint pain, red eyes, and conjunctivitis. "These symptoms typically last for a few days to a week. However, it's crucial to take precautions to prevent Zika infection. To protect yourself, use insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, or IR3535 on exposed skin, wear long sleeves and pants when outdoors, install screens on windows and doors, and remove standing water where mosquitoes can breed. Additionally, to prevent sexual transmission of Zika, use condoms during sex and abstain from sexual activity for at least six months after travelling to a Zika-affected area. If you are pregnant, consult with your doctor to assess your partner's risk of Zika infection and monitor your health closely, as Zika during pregnancy can lead to severe birth defects."

Dr Pramod V Satya, a Consultant in Internal Medicine at Manipal Hospital Millers Road, said, "The same type of mosquitoes (Aedes aegypti) responsible for spreading dengue also transmit the Zika virus. These mosquitoes are day-biting mosquitoes that usually bite indoors. They breed in areas where water accumulation is more."

For school-going children, Dr Gowda suggested applying an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellent to exposed skin and clothing. "Wear long-sleeved clothing, stay indoors during mosquito peak hours, and eliminate standing water, such as in containers and gutters. Follow medical advice and stay updated on Zika developments, " he said.

HEALTH TIP: Walking, dancing, playing tennis, and weight-bearing exercises reduce the risk of osteoporosis

Including star fruit in your diet can assist in maintaining healthy lungs and promoting overall respiratory well-being

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Friday, November 3, 2023
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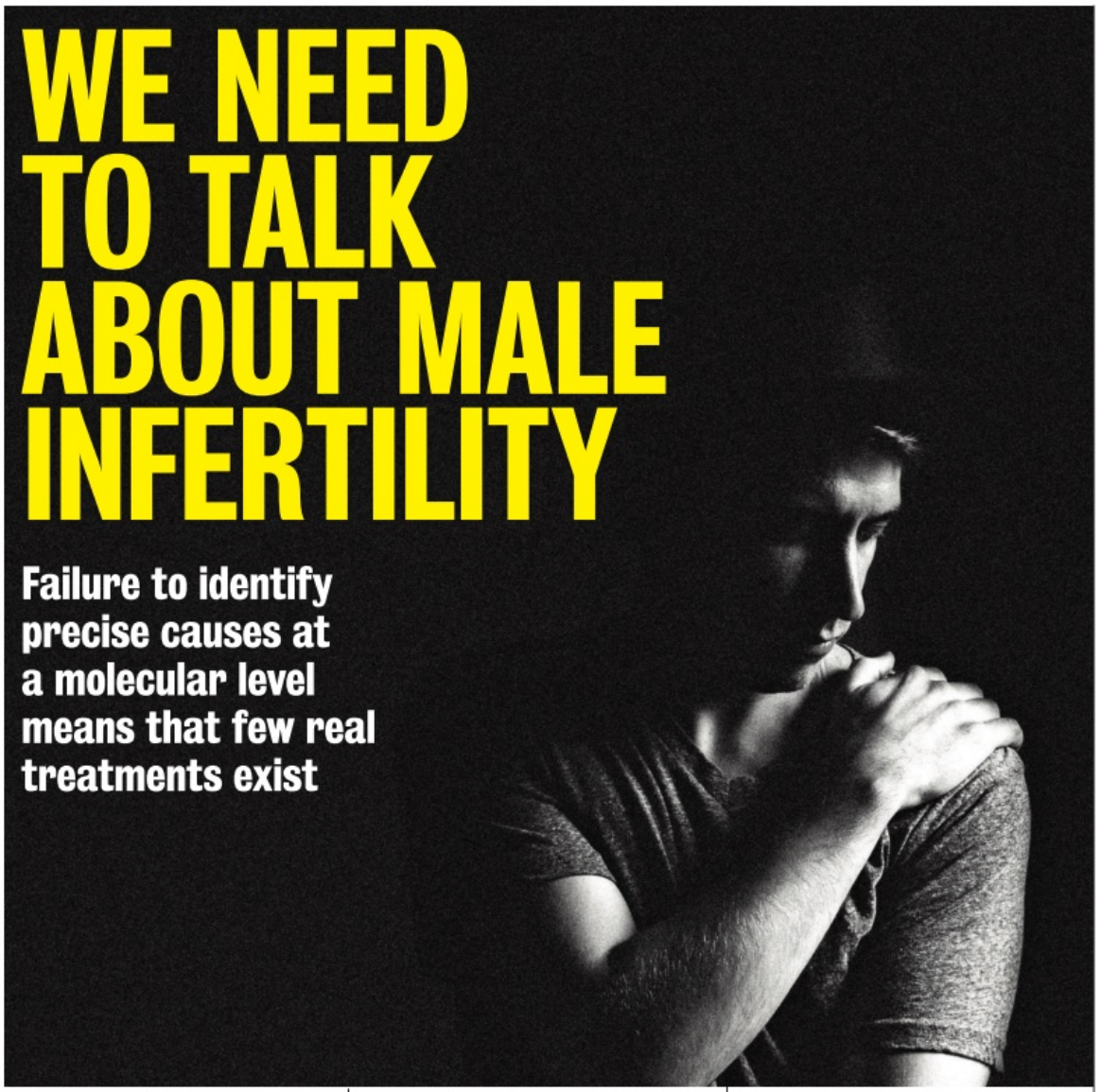
WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT MALE INFERTILITY

Failure to identify precise causes at a molecular level means that few real treatments exist



Almost exactly a year ago, the eight billionth person was born, apparently in the Philippines. In just 11 years, the world had added a billion people to the population.

It might sound bizarre then, to learn that there is a worldwide fertility problem. The fact is in the last 60 years, the global birth rate has dropped from 5.3 to 2.3 births per woman. This is seen by many as a product of modern life, where couples choose to have fewer children later in life. Such choices are valid and have contributed to improved economics and health of many, notably women and children, across the globe.

That narrative is false

The blanket perception of 'choice' hides the reality that the World Health Organization estimates that 1 in 6 couples are in fact infertile. In April, a WHO report claimed that an estimated 17.5 per cent of the adult population is infertile and that number is increasing yearly.

Perhaps more surprisingly to many the incidence of infertility between sexes is almost equal—estimated 35 per cent of the time due to women and 30 per cent due to the male, with the remainder due to a combination or unknown causes.

Male infertility is common and does not discriminate based on wealth or geography.

It is the unspoken canary in the coalmine of male health.

Compounding this is the failure of health systems to recognise the burden of male infertility at a more significant level and the potential that infertility may be caused by or be a marker of other illness.

For most men, the cause will remain unidentified. Often, this is because there isn't enough knowledge about the production of the reproductive cells, known as gametes, and how they are affected by environmental and lifestyle factors.

Defining the precise causes of male infertility demands more effort to identify its subtypes. We must move beyond characterising patients based only on semen composition and automatically moving to assisted reproduction which, after all, is a strategy to bypass the problem rather than treat it.

Alarmingly, tests to provide a precise diagnosis of male infertility are rare, and consequently, few targeted treatments exist.

Unlike many areas of health, DNA or genome sequencing is not currently standard practice – and even if it was, researchers are yet to develop the tools to read the genetic map of how to produce functional sperm. Research into achieving such knowledge is essential.

Each man entering into medically assisted reproduction without a thorough consideration of the potential causes of infertility and co-morbidities is a missed opportunity. Furthermore a woman with no identified reproductive disease or history often becomes the patient to 'treat' a presumed male fertility issue.

This highlights the inherent gender inequity in the approach to infertility treatment. Procedures are performed on women when it's men's infertility that may be the problem. The misnomer of 'treatment' for male infertility is emotionally taxing for the man and woman and involves considerable time and financial commitment. It is also invasive and includes a risk to the woman's health.

The failure to identify precise causes of male infertility at a molecular level, also means that few real treatments exist.

This inequity works both ways, by circumventing male infertility as a problem it denies treatment of the underlying medical for the individual and further pushes community awareness of the growing portion of the population going through the same situation further from the surface. This is in spite of the fact that evidence suggests that men are searching in greater numbers for the cause of their infertility.

There are multiple complex reasons why people experience infertility, almost certainly involving a mix of biological changes, environmental and lifestyle exposures.

A roadmap for governments, society and health bodies, to change the conversation surrounding fertility, could work to address the current level of concern and ultimately provide real treatments for the benefit of men, their partners and their children. First, the simple goal could be that all parties need to acknowledge male infertility is a common, serious medical condition, and patients have a right to meaningful diagnoses and targeted treatments.

Equally, the bodies controlling public health funding could establish a global network of registries and biobanks containing standardised clinical and lifestyle information linked to national healthcare data systems for testing so as to unpick those sub-types of infertility caused by genetic changes, environmental insults, or an interaction between the two.

Potentially environmental causes may be removed by governments or individuals. Importantly, such databases should encompass a wide geographic distribution. With the identification of precise molecular causes of male infertility, true treatments may be developed.

Agencies can implement regulations to ensure the rigorous testing of compounds for adverse effects on male fertility and the sharing of results globally – notably, and urgently, around classes of compounds known as endocrine disrupting compounds. In parallel, regulatory policies that control the use of compounds that alter reproductive health in products, the workplace and the environment could be enacted while investing in research to develop safe chemical alternatives.

Society at large could normalise the conversation around male infertility to encourage action to achieve these formidable goals.

Normalisation comes through education and public health campaigns, where infertility becomes recognised as a common, serious and urgent disease.

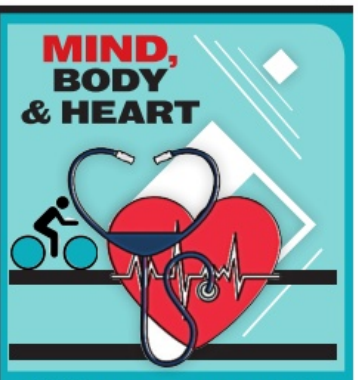
Ideally, such campaigns should be lifelong, easily understandable, accessible and linked to healthcare systems through improved and continuous education of the healthcare workforce in the broad area of male reproductive health.

The training for the industry could be emphasised during medical school, providing ongoing training and resources to health professionals integrating services across urology, internal medicine, endocrinology, gynaecology and paediatrics.

The task is considerable, but the public is not starting from zero. Many laboratories have made impressive advances. Adopting new sequencing technologies is already revealing a rapidly expanding number of genetic causes of human infertility.

Success in research leads to the treatment of male reproductive disorders, and through implementation into standardised global healthcare practices, men, their partners, and future generations will live long and healthy lives.

(By Moira O'Bryan, University of Melbourne and Robert McLachlan, Hudson Institute of Medical Research, 360info.org)



All you need to know about...

Salt & diabetes risk

Skip salt
While those at risk for Type-2 diabetes already know to avoid sugar, new research suggests it may be time to skip salt as well.

Salt increases risk of Type-2 diabetes
The study from Tulane University in the US showed that frequently adding salt to food was associated with an increased risk of developing Type-2 diabetes.
The study published in the journal 'Mayo Clinic Proceedings' surveyed more than 400,000 adults about their salt intake. Over a median of 11.8 years of follow-up, more than 13,000 cases of Type-2 diabetes developed among participants.

In comparison
Compared to those who "never" or "rarely" used salt, participants who "sometimes," "usually," or "always" added salt had a respective 13 per cent, 20 per cent, and 39 per cent risk of developing Type-2diabetes.

First time link to diabetes show
"We already know that limiting salt can reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases and hypertension, but this study shows for the first time that taking the saltshaker off the table can help prevent Type-2 diabetes as well," said lead author Dr. Lu Qi, Professor at the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

BMI/obesity
Further research is needed to determine why high salt intake could be linked to a higher risk of Type 2 diabetes. However, Qi believes salt encourages people to eat larger portions, increasing the chances of developing risk factors such as obesity and inflammation. The study found an association between frequent consumption of salt and higher BMI and waist-to-hip ratio. Qi said the next step is to conduct a clinical trial controlling the amount of salt participants consume and observing effects.

—IANS

Meet AI-Bee, India's 'smallest drone'

a camera, the drone has an endurance of 20 minutes.

Currently, the drone provides analogue imagery but the plan is to integrate it with digital imaging capability. But what makes the drone unique is its ability to navigate fully automated. The drone can achieve the task using the Lidar system which allows it to detect obstacles and enable course correction. Additionally, the drone is capable of carrying an extra payload of up to 30-50 gm.

The project has been funded by the Government of India under the Ministry of Heavy Industry (MHI). In 2022, the ministry approved the setting up of an MHI accelerator named the Centre for Advanced Manufacturing for Robotics and Autonomous Systems (Camras).

Camras was formed to develop robotic and autonomous systems, and their accompanying parts and reduce the import of UAVs.

In the future, the team plans to explore the swarming of nano drones. Swarming is a technique where drones operate in a coordinated fashion to achieve a task.

"Already the swarming technique has been attempted with above 250 gm segment drones; it's yet to be tried with nano drones. These nano drones will be a game-changer in the defence sector and have a plethora of applications. But, currently, we are seeing use in defence and heavy industries," said Vaydyn Founder, Varun Raghavendra.

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Change of Name

I, Suneetharani Maddula, r/at Flat 422, Devagiri Emeralds, 4/F, Happy Valley Layout, Uttarahalli, Bangalore 560061 shall henceforth be known as SUNITHA RANI PEKETI vide affidavit dated. 30.10.2023 before Notary Mohammed Hussain, Bangalore, Reg. No. 20459.

I, AGGARAPU SIVA KRISHNA VENI, R/a, Flat No.205, 2nd Floor, 2nd Block, Anriya Dwellington, RMV 2nd Stage, Dollars Colony, Bangalore-94. I have changed my name to, KRISHNA VENI NALLU SIVA, Vide affidavit, dated 31/10/2023 Sworn before Notary: M. Rajendra Bangalore

I Basheer Ahamed S/O, E Yoshaf R/o No 25/26 1st Cross Near N.p Factory, Kaval Byrasandra R T Nagar Bangalore, 560032 have changed my name to Basheer Ahmed.

I,MOHSIN KHAN, R/a, No.202,4th Main Road, 10th Cross, Williams Town, Bangalore-46. I, have changed my name to, MOHSEEN KHAN, Vide affidavit, dated 31/10/2023 Sworn before Notary: M Rajendra Bangalore

I, Hanish Jayanthilal Jain, R/a: 124/1, Akkipet Main Road, Akkipet, Chickpet, Bengaluru-560053. I have changed my name to Hanish Jain. Vide affidavit dated- 31.10.23. Sworn before notary V Rangaramu, Bengaluru.

I, Jayashree Kallaganad W/o late K Vijaya Kumar R/o F4, 109, Margosa Ave, Green Glen Layout, Bellandur, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560103. I have changed my name to Jayashree Kallaganad from KSK Jayashree for future purposes.

I Dhanushree Manjunath D/O, Antony R/o No. 233, 2nd Floor Vr Shobha Meadows Apartment, Government Collage Road, M V Extension, Behind Bluedart Courier Office Hosakote Bangalore 562114 have changed my name to Dhanushree Manjunatha.

I, Khirod Kumar Nayak S/o Baidhar Nayak R/o Atharasingpur Po -pirahat Bazar, Ps-pirahat, Pin -756131 District - bhadrak have changed my name to Khirod Nayak for all purposes.

I Suma W/O, Raghu C R/o No 34/3 4th Cross 1st Block Harijana Colony Kanteeravanagar Nandinilayout Bangalore 560096 have changed my name to Suma Raghu .

I Nikitha Narayan Chari Sreeram R/o #62, 1st Cross 3rd Phase RKM Layout TC Palya, K R Puram, Bengaluru 560036, have Changed my name to Nikitha Narayanachari Sriramachari.

I Divya Kanteti R/o Flat No 106, Sairaghgardens, Tcpalya Mainroad, Akshaya Nagar, Krishna Rajapuram Rs, Bengaluru-560016, Have Changed My Name To Divya Perla

I, Harshith S/o Kumar R/at #3541, Vhbcs Layout, Girinagar 4th Phase,bsk 3rd Stage ,B'luru-560085 have changed my name to Harshith K for all purposes.

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First look— On his birthday, Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan finally unveiled the first glimpse of his much-anticipated and discussed film 'Dunki.' Titled 'Drop 1,' the video combines action, socio-political comedy, love, and bleakness

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Teaser triumph

Chethan Raj, the producer of the Kannada film 'Kamarottu Checkpost,' is on cloud nine due to the overwhelming appreciation and positive response received for the teaser of his second venture, 'Chi. Thu. Yuvakara Sangha.' The teaser has already amassed over five lakh views, and the entire cast and crew of 'Chi Thu Yuvakara Sangha' are jubilant, especially with the endorsement from Sandalwood superstar Sharan, who lauded the teaser's quality.

"This is my second movie as a producer. The title of this movie is the name of an association started by Sharan and Chikkanna in the Kannada movie Adhyaksha. We met Sharan to show the teaser of this movie. He appreciated it and wished all the best to the cast and crew of this movie," said Chethan Raj. He described 'Chi Thu Yuvakara Sangha' as belonging to the comedy genre with commercial elements. "The film revolves around unemployed youth who face criticism from their parents for their idleness. Beyond providing entertainment, the movie conveys a significant societal message," he explained.

Cinematic comeback

Director Shankar Aradhya, known for his work on the Kannada film '18th Cross' over a decade ago, is returning to the film scene with a new Kannada project titled 'Mayanagari'. In addition to directing, Shankar Aradhya also produced this movie.

"The movie' 18th Cross' brought me recognition and success. It made a decent profit. Now, my second movie is ready for release. Members of the Regional Censor Board recently watched 'Mayanagari' and appreciated it. The movie has received a UA certificate from the Central Board of Film Certification," said Shankar Aradhya.

The director-producer mentioned that veteran actor Dwarakish plays a significant role in 'Mayanagari'. He added, "As far as I know, Dwarakish hasn't appeared in any Kannada film after 'Mayanagari.' He delivered an exceptional performance, which added value to the movie.

'Mayanagari' offers 100 per cent entertainment for the audience."

Explaining the movie's title, 'Mayanagari' he revealed that it refers to a place in the Malnad region.

Nick's 'wow' post

Nick Jonas joins 'looking like a wow' trend as he reacts to wife Priyanka Chopra's pic

After Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh, and KL Rahul, actor and singer Nick Jonas has also joined the 'looking like a wow' trend on social media. If you are an avid social media user, you may have come across videos of people creating reels featuring the catchphrase 'just looking like a wow.' This catchphrase was amusingly used by a woman on Instagram to attract the audience's attention to the clothing material she was selling.

On Thursday, Nick took to his Instagram account and shared a picture of his wife, Priyanka Chopra, on his stories. He captioned it, 'So beautiful. So elegant... just looking like a wow.' In the picture, Priyanka could be seen donning a beautiful green saree.

Earlier, actor Deepika Padukone also shared a reel video in which she playfully mouthed the lines, 'So beautiful, so elegant, just looking like a wow... just looking like a wow...' with a funny face.

Celebrities like Sanya Malhotra and Wamiqa Gabbi have also posted their own reels featuring the 'Just looking like a wow' meme.

Priyanka and her husband Nick Jonas tied the knot in a Christian and a Hindu ceremony at Jodhpur's Umaid Bhawan Palace on December 1 and 2, 2018.

Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas welcomed their daughter, Malti, via surrogacy in January 2022.

Priyanka recently captivated everyone with her appearance at the Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2023. She exuded her 'Desi Girl' vibe at the event by wearing a white and blue floral saree. She wore her hair open and completed her look with red lipstick.

—ANI

Silent feud?

Karan Johar and Nora Fatehi, who walked the ramp for Manish Malhotra along with Janhvi Kapoor and Karisma Kapoor at the Jio World Plaza launch, have recently sparked rumours of a feud. The duo did not pose for photos together and have also excluded each other from their social media posts, where they shared pictures from the star-studded event.

Karan showed some photos of himself to give fans a sneak peek of how he looked before he shared pictures with Janhvi and Karisma. Manish was in those photos too. However, Nora was nowhere to be seen. Although he didn't share a photo with her, Karan mentioned her in the caption. He wrote, "The @jioworldplaza is just beyond your imagination! I had the pleasure to walk for the maestro and my closest dearest friend @manishmalhotra05 at this stunning venue! A great date to kick start the venue on Nita Bhabhi's birthday eve! I walked the ramp with the stunning @therealkarismakapoor @janhvikapoor @norafatehi, show styled by the fabulous @anaitashroffadajania."

As soon as they both shared the pictures from the event, comments poured in from all sides on social media. However, hours later, Nora also shared pictures from the event and did not include Karan and Manish. "A truly remarkable evening, as I had the opportunity to walk for the incredible @manishmalhotra05's @manishmalhotraworld @manishmalhotrajewellery #Bombay Bordeaux showcase."

– Etimes

Ad controversy

Hollywood star Scarlett Johansson has taken legal action against an AI app after its advertisement allegedly featured her name and likeness without her permission. The 22-second advertisement was posted on X by Lisa AI: 90's Yearbook & Avatar, an image-generating app, according to the American news outlet Variety.

A spokesperson for the 'Marriage Story' star confirmed to Variety that she is not a spokesperson for the company and that appropriate legal actions were taken after it was spotted on October 28.

The ad, which has been taken down, used behind-the-scenes footage of Johansson from the set of her 2021 Marvel film Black Widow. "What's up, guys? It's Scarlett, and I want you to come with me..." she says before the screen transitions into AI-generated photos that resemble her. The advertisement also featured fine print that read, "Images produced by Lisa AI. It has nothing to do with this person."

—PTI

mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
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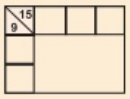
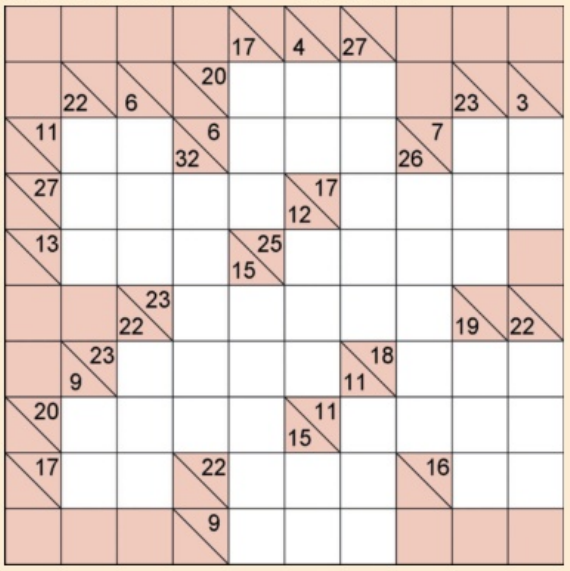
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

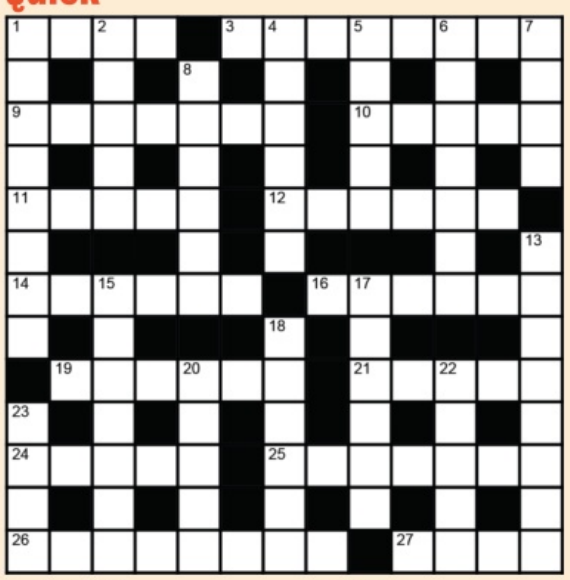


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Japanese style of wrestling (4)
3 Throws into disorder (8)
9 Projection (7)
10 Eat or feed on grass (5)
11 Shoe gripper (5)
12 Song of praise (6)
14 Igloo dweller (6)
16 Take for granted (6)
19 Sparing (6)
21 Group of eight (5)
24 Land south of Egypt (5)
25 Criminals (7)
26 Bodily (8)
27 Mountain pool (4)

DOWN

1 Very hot day (8)
2 Dull finish (5)
4 Capital of Manipur (6)
5 Correct (5)
6 Level out (7)
7 Litigated (4)
8 For the time being (3,3)
13 Throw overboard (8)
15 Karnataka's first Chief Minister (1,1,5)
17 Quite level (6)
18 Historic caves: Ajanta and ___ (6)
20 Very clever people (5)
22 Lady's head dress (5)
23 Invitation letters (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: L EQUALS S

EVVN NILREA RL EVVN HDL-RAILL.

Linemaro

When God made you, he was showing off.

Mindchow

Very often a change of self is needed more than a change of scene.

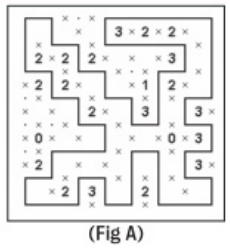
Joke of the day

How do crazy people go through the forest? They take the psycho path.

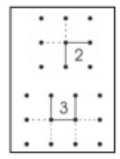
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

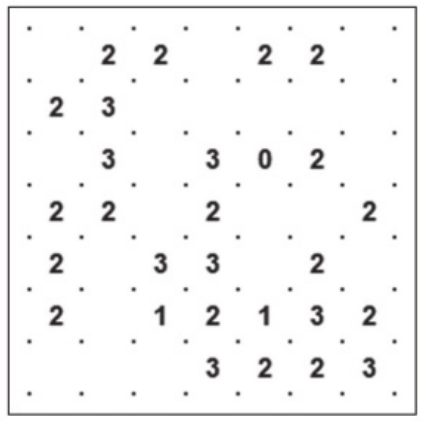


(Fig B) Not Allowed

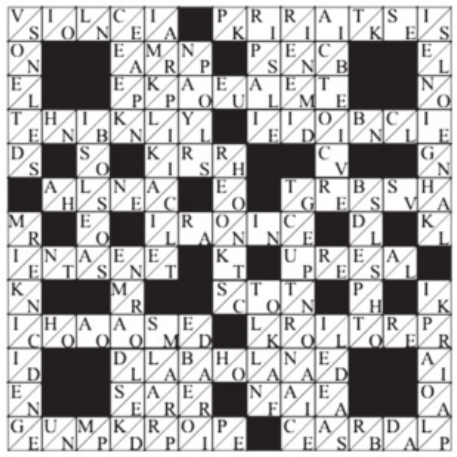
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1 M	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

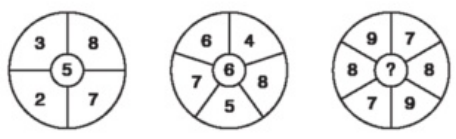
1 Miss T; 6 Hut no; 7 Ester; 8 At ire; 9 Decor

DOWN

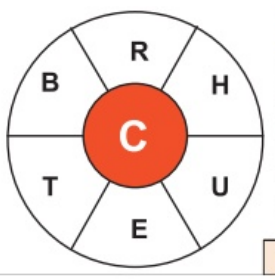
1 Musci; 2 It nor; 3 Hares; 4 Otter; 5 Ed set

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 12 Good; 14 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

7			2		9			1
8	1			6			7	9
	6						3	
			6		2			
9	5		7		3		8	2
			1		8			
	9						4	
1	8			2			9	5
5			9		1			3

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 9

2 2 4 9

Medium = 2

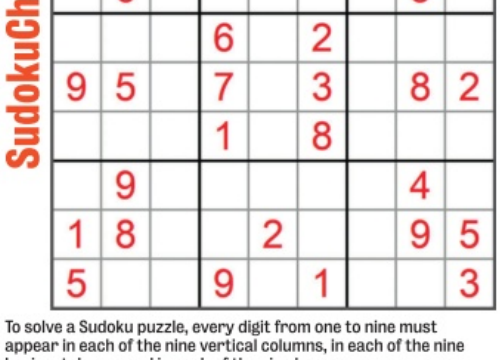
4 5 6 7

Hard = 25

2 6 7 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



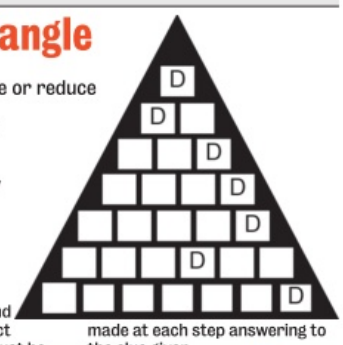
Differences: 1. Sleeve is longer. 2. Window in door is different. 3. Branch is missing. 4. Cloud is smaller. 5. Woman's hair is different. 6. Man is taller.

Riddler

What does this sentence represent?
Stand Take Mine Taking I You To My

Alpha triangle

1 Fourth letter
2 Prefix for remove or reduce
3 Put a stop to
4 Give temporarily
5 Mix smoothly
6 Package
7 Took the edge off



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

AND NOW, "HERCULES VERSUS A TEDDY BEAR"
THINK HERC WILL WIN?
TRUST ME
HE'S GONNA KNOCK THE STUFFING OUT OF THAT THING
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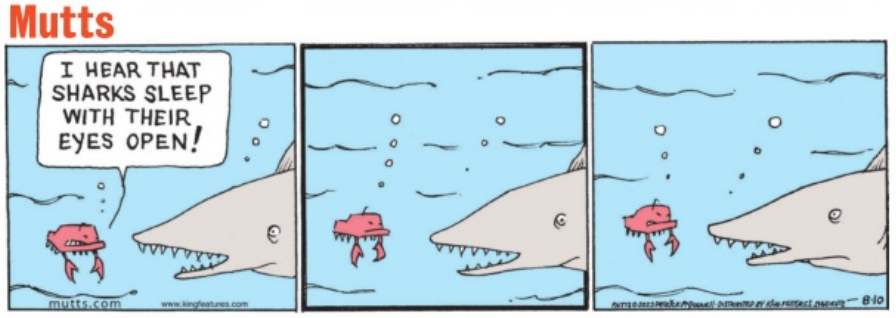
Hart of the city

SORRY I'VE BEEN A WEIRD JERK.
IT'S OKAY. I KNOW I CAN BE INTIMIDATINGLY COOL.
BUT NOW THAT WE'RE FRIENDS, LET'S GET TO THE REAL BUSINESS.
GHOST HUNTING!
THERE'S NO WAY THE THEATER RANDOMLY MAKES NOISES AT 3 P.M. EVERY DAY.
WE DEFINITELY NEED TO GET THE PARANORMAL SOCIETY INVOLVED
HART OF THE CITY © 2020 JEREMY NOWELL
GOCOMICS.COM/JEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

SO IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THE CREDIT CARD, MISS?
NO... IT'S JUST TAKING ME A BIT TO ACCESS YOUR INFORMATION...
IT'S NOT YOU... IT'S ME.
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, your spiritual power may bring you happiness. Your thinking is likely to be positive, and you may feel inclined toward spiritualism. Consider planning a visit to a religious place or taking an interest in occult science. You are likely to exude flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views to yourself and share them only with those who understand your frequency.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may receive good news regarding your job. Job seekers may be focused on succeeding in exams through hard work. Singles may become engaged to their soul mate. You may get some good news related to childbirth.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today is a good day for you, as you may enjoy good vitality and health. Your challenge is to avoid being too straightforward. It is advisable to steer clear of arguments on trivial topics to prevent disputes within the family. Control your words, and you may expect healthy partnerships in business and domestic harmony. Job seekers may find suitable jobs, and lovebirds should avoid discussing trivial matters.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel nervous and lack patience. If you seek peace, you might be drawn to the occult. It is advisable to follow your intuition before proceeding. You may also gain in-depth knowledge on a subject or develop a strong focus on your research.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may plan for a change of location, but it is advisable to postpone migration decisions. Avoid business investments, and by late evening, the situation may come under control. With the wise advice of an elder, you can manage the situation effectively.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, your vitality may decrease, and old ailments may reappear, causing distress. Avoid adventurous tours and reckless driving. Steer clear of legal entanglements, as you may be able to settle them out of court. Consider planning an overseas trip.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, with the moon in a favourable position, you can expect positive developments in both your professional and domestic life. Gains in your investments are likely, and you may receive reciprocation of help from friends and relatives. Your hard work may lead to success.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may expect a short business trip and potential rewards for your success in your domain. Your respect in your surroundings may increase, and you may hear good news from siblings. Job seekers pursuing management positions may find success, and singles are likely to get engaged.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may profit from your past investments, and losses may turn into gains. Implementing new ideas may lead to progress in your business, making success more accessible. You may meet an influential person who can guide you on the path to success. Lovebirds may make decisions regarding marriage, and couples may receive good news about children. Job seekers will find suitable employment.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may do better, and your child's health has improved. Consider making investments for your child's future. You are likely to be more loyal to your job, and job seekers may find employment with the help of references. You may identify hidden enemies and counter them with blessings.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are blessed by your elders, and new sources of income may open up, boosting your bank balance. Consider planning to renovate your house, as you may secure a significant order that could significantly expand your family business. Exercise patience when signing contracts, and expect movement in your business as delayed projects restart.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, your family and spouse will support you, enhancing domestic harmony. Due to work overload, you may not have sufficient time for your family, so make an effort to attend family gatherings. You are expected to hold a strong position in your professional life, and projects related to government agencies are likely to begin.

KIDZONE

Syed Anas Ahmed, 9 Years, Canaan Christ School

Disha Ranjit, 8 Years, KLE School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
156-1+6
155+6
161

BULL'S EYE
BUTCHER, chertup, chute, cruel, cube, curb, curve, curt, cute, cuter, ecru, etch, retch, truce

STRIKE OUT

V	I	N	C	I	P	I	R	A	T	E	S			
O		A	M	P		S	E	C		E				
		E	A	R		F	I	E		A				
G	U	M	D	R	O	P		C	A	B	A	L		

QUICK

P	H	Y	S	I	C	A	L		T	A	R	N		
V		D		I		R		H		R		O		
S	U	D	A	N		O	U	T	L	A	W	S		

FAST FIVE

C	O	R	E	D
I	R	A	T	E
S	T	E	R	E
U	N	H	O	T
M	I	S	T	S

QUOTE UNCODE
Good design is good business.

SUDOKU

5	4	6	9	7	1	8	2	3
1	8	3	4	2	6	7	9	5
2	9	7	8	3	5	1	4	6
6	2	4	1	9	8	3	5	7
9	5	1	7	4	3	6	8	2
3	7	8	6	5	2	9	1	4
4	6	9	5	1	7	2	3	8
8	1	2	3	6	4	5	7	9
7	3	5	2	8	9	4	6	1

8: the number in the middle is the average of the numbers round the outside. So, 7 + 8 + 9 + 7 + 8 + 9 = 48, and 48 ÷ 6 = 8

RIDDLER
I understand you undertake to undermine my undertaking.

ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, DE, End, Lend, Blend, Bundle, Blunted.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 – 4 + 9 + 2 = 9
Hard
7 + 5 – 4 – 6 = 2
2 + 6 x 4 – 7 = 25

LOOP

KAKURO

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